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The GREEN

LIGHT



BULLETIN of the POINT ASSOCIATION

MAY, 1958

MAY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SPECIAL GIFT

DATE - Friday, May 23, 1958

TIME - 8:00 P. M.

PLACE - St. John's Guild Hall, Poplar St.

PLANS for a summer Point celebration will be submitted to the general membership by the Ways and Means Committee. Suggestions from the membership will be appreciated.

REFRESHMENTS will be served after the business meeting. Bring your friends.

YOUTH GROUP COMMITTEE

Teenage dances were suspended during the Easter holidays but were resumed Friday, April 18. Twenty-seven teenagers attended this dance which showed an increase in attendance.

Mrs. Edwin Brownell, Chairman of the Youth Group Committee still needs volunteers to serve as chaperones. It would be appreciated if parents of the teenagers would provide cookies. The Point Association furnishes the other refreshments.

AUGUST GARDEN CONTEST

FOR EACH AND EVERYONE ON THE POINT: Get out your rakes, forks and shovels, and see what you can do to improve your neighborhood. Vegetable gardens, flower gardens and window boxes will be considered for prizes. Judging will be some time in August. There will be more news in the June issue. GET BUSY!

Miss Carrie Ericson of 43 Washington St., made a beautiful hooked rug of the light house off Goat Island and very generously donated to the Point Association. The coloring of the water, sky and lighthouse is most unusual. The rug will be shown to the membership at the May 23rd meeting.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO POINT BOYS

Boys interested in obtaining YMCA memberships contact Mrs. Richard Weiss at VI 6-9457. (These memberships are being provided for by a generous, anonymous Point member).

The Point Association is very grateful to Miss Ericson for kindly donating her rug to the Point Association and to the anonymous donor of the YMCA memberships for Point boys. This help is exceptional inasmuch as it has been completely unsolicited.

COMPLAINTS

In order for the Point Association to be an effective group it is necessary that the membership make complaints in writing to either the president, Mr. William Fullerton, 41 Washington Street, or to one of the board members. The members must not hesitate to complain about nuisances since it is impossible for the Association to handle problems that are not known to them. If enough members insist that our neighborhood be improved, then something can and will be done. Not even one complaint has been received concerning the terrible rubbish and garbage conditions. IT IS TOO EASY TO SAY "THAT NOTHING CAN BE DONE" - SOMETHING MUST BE DONE.

SEA WALL

POINT OF INTEREST

Complaints have been received from the membership concerning the state of the sea wall at Van Zandt Pier. The City never followed through in it's plans to fix the sea wall in that area. It is still in deplorable condition and the results of a really bad storm or hurricane would be sad to contemplate.

Caleb Claggett was a Welshman, a baker by trade, who came to Newport at the beginning of the 18th century. Whether or not he built the house on Shipwright Street in which he lived, is not certain; much of the house, very similar to the Wanton-Hazard, appears to be definitely of 17th century construction. This very interesting dwelling, saved from destruction, has been bought by Mrs. Gordon Bates and is being restored. With its entire brick end and its noble fireplaces, it is an outstanding example of some of Newport's earliest remaining architecture.

POINT TREE PROGRAM

The Point Association is appreciative to any members and residents on the Point who are caring for and watching over the trees planted on the Point by the City.

Caleb Claggett's son, William, was the genius who built organs, made exceptional clocks, dabbled in electrical experiments before Ben Franklin thought of doing so, engraved, printed, and wrote treatises on his varied activities...

These trees need care. They must be watered, the earth should be broken up around the trunks and CHILDREN must be reprimanded when one finds them rocking the trees to and fro or cutting them with knives.

Hannah Claggett, William's sister, married George Gibbs, old Caleb's apprentice, and they lived in the house now restored and occupied by George D. Weaver, Jr. Gibbs prospered, and rose from baker to flour merchant, moving to a mansion that stood on the sight of the present Lincoln Store.

Trees on Walnut and Poplar Streets have received some damage but have a chance of survival if watched and cared for. However, it is most unfortunate to note that the trees planted on Bridge St. have suffered from outright vandalism. The individuals who have broken these trees are not small children but are either teenagers or adults and are most certainly not responsible members of a community. If seen, these persons should be reported to the Police Department since no ordinary citizen could handle anyone so misguided.

In the Common Burying-ground, between Hannah Claggett Gibbs and old Caleb, lies little Ann, William Claggett's daughter, who was drowned at the age of four. Every good Pointer will know where Shipwright Street is, and how poor little Ann could have tumbled into the water at her back door.

OFFICERS

But if you don't know, you will find out next month.

President - William H. Fullerton
Vice President - George D. Weaver, Jr.
Treasu - Alfred Feiner
Corresponding Secretary - Doris Bacheller
Recording Secretary - Sara W. Weiss

E. B. P.

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REMEMBER

FRIDAY - May 23, 1958

ST. JOHN'S GUILD HALL

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

8:00 P. M.